



GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

LEGISLATIVE & POLICY COORDINATING COMMITTEE (LPCC)

MEETING MINUTES

January 9, 2015

8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

Arizona State Capitol Executive Tower

Third Floor Conference Room

1700 West Washington Street

Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Committee Members, Liaisons and Participants Present

Deborah Lavinsky (Committee Chair), Becky Brimhall-Lepire, Charles Brown, Patsy Gillis, Deborah Hankerd, Teresa Ramirez Lopez, Doyle Meredith, Lisa O'Neill, Melinda Preston, Tonya Watson, C. T. Wright, Christine Bryson-Lazo, Mary Busch, Brittany Carter, Elisa Davis, Tammy Frazee, Elizabeth Harris, Randy Maskell and Don Ritchie

Committee Members Absent

Joy Grainger, Diane Joens, Allison Perrin and Trudy Schuett

Council Staff Present

Cathy De Lisa, Kim Jennings and Carolyn Sigler

Guests Present and Signing In

Jantell Cansler and Kevin Earle

Welcome, Introductions, Review & Approval of September 11, 2014, Draft LPCC Minutes

Committee Chair Deborah Lavinsky called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. A welcome and introduction period followed. Draft minutes from the September 11, 2014, meeting were reviewed. *C. T. Wright made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Becky Brimhall-Lepire seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

Review & Discussion of GACA Recommendations Approved for 2015

Tonya Watson, Council Vice Chair, reviewed the process for the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee on Review and Revitalization & Public Relations that were approved by GACA at the November Planning Meeting. Copies of the Action Plan were provided to the members.

Ms. Watson reminded the members that the work of all committees and subcommittees of GACA will focus on actionable items and measurable outcomes from the Action Plan. Members were encouraged to work on one of the two subcommittees: Legislative Tracking Subcommittee or Senior Action Day Subcommittee.

A copy of the GACA Action Plan is available through the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging's office.

Discussion – Mission of LPCC and Committee Work

Ms. Lavinsky referenced the GACA Purpose and Committee Objectives form provided to the members and asked them to review the purpose and mission of the Advisory Council and the objective of the Legislative and Policy Coordinating Committee.

Committee Chair Lavinsky announced that Patsy Gillis and Joy Grainger will be the co-chairs of the Legislative Tracking Subcommittee and C. T. Wright and Diane Joens will co-chair the Senior Action Day Subcommittee.

Ms. Lavinsky noted that Senior Action Day events are held in odd-numbered years in communities throughout the state to provide stakeholders an opportunity to meet and discuss issues of concern with their legislators.

A copy of the GACA Purpose and Committee Objectives form is available through the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging's office.

Break Out of Subcommittees – Discussion of Potential Short-Term Goals

Members of LPCC broke into two Subcommittee groups for a 30-minute discussion. Members of the Legislative Tracking Subcommittee were provided with resource information.

A copy of the Process of Bill Drafting and the 2015 Senate and House Committee Leadership forms are available through the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging's office.

Report Back of Subcommittee Recommendations to LPCC

Cathy De Lisa, Executive Director, reported that the Legislative Tracking Subcommittee agreed on two short-term goals. The subcommittee will call a meeting on Friday, January 23, (time and location to be announced) and will explore a possible web page dedicated to resources and information on pending legislation.

Lisa O'Neill reported the Senior Action Day Subcommittee reviewed the Action Plan items pertaining to Senior Action Days and discussed the possibility of using technology to expand participation in Senior Action Day events and will consider a conference call to discuss potential dates.

Discussion of Proposed Legislation & Priorities

Kevin Earle of the Arizona Dental Association, provided a handout and reported:

- 1) The Central Arizona Dental Mission of Mercy had 1,500 volunteers, 253 dentists, 200 hygienists and a van provided by Pacific Dental Services at the December 2014 event;

- 2) February 10, 2015, is Oral Health Day at the Capitol and a coalition is attempting to get full emergency dental benefits reinstated after the cuts of 2009; and
- 3) Representative Heather Carter is sponsoring a bill to reinstate the adult emergency dental benefits to Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System participants and restore dental services for the Arizona Long Term Care Services population.

A copy of Mr. Earle's handout is available through the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging's office.

Elizabeth Harris introduced Jantell Cansler who reported that Representative Kate Brophy McGee is sponsoring a bill seeking appropriations for the Arizona Lifespan Respite program.

Elizabeth Harris reported on the partnership between DES Division of Aging and Adult Services and the Arizona Area Agencies on Aging to offer the voucher program to caregivers statewide.

Tammy Frazee reported that DES is working on a bill to provide the APS Registry online.

Christine Bryson-Lazo expressed interest in the Silver Alert process and reported on a new chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI).

Brittany Carter reported the Arizona Health Care Association is working to remove the sunset date from provider skilled nursing facility assessments and is working with the coalition to restore oral health benefits.

Elisa Davis reported that the Arizona Association of Area Agencies on Aging is working on an educational paper for wide distribution regarding the impact of cuts to services.

Tonya Watson reminded the committee to think about how to turn these items into Action Items for the Council.

Becky Brimhall-Lepire reminded everyone present that the committees and subcommittees bring recommendations to GACA. Those recommendations are considered by GACA for potential action.

Members discussed the Arizona Legislature's website that includes an option for citizens to sign up to speak to the committees about pending legislation.

A copy of the GACA 2015 Advocacy Issues form was made available to the members.

Report Out & Discussion on Events Related to LPCC

Don Ritchie reported that AARP would be hosting a Legislative Breakfast on the Capitol Lawn Thursday, January 15.

Elizabeth Harris, on behalf of the Arizona Caregivers Coalition, reported that Protecting Arizona's Family Coalition has a budget presentation in their call to action.

Teresa Ramirez Lopez reported she serves on the Alzheimer's Association Desert Southwest Chapter advocacy committee.

Kevin Earle reminded everyone that February 10 is Oral Health Day at the Capitol.

Elisa Davis reported Region IV will hold their 3rd Annual Regional Conference on Aging on January 29 in Yuma.

Adjourn

Committee Chair Deborah Lavinsky adjourned the meeting at 9:52 a.m.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Legislative & Policy Coordinating Committee of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging is scheduled for March 6, 2015; time and location to be determined and announced by public meeting notice posted at the GACA website: www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/. These meetings are open to the public.